

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air a blatantly one-sided anti-Kerry documentary so close to the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter. Airing such a partisan attack is a callous disregard of the trust of the American people.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Consolidating ownership of the public airwaves to a few companies clearly threatens democracy. The actions of Sinclair show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.